

report of activities

JUNE 1, 1958—MAY 31, 1959



General Bulletin 681

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September, 1959

Harrisburg

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania—David L. Lawrence, Governor

Department of Agriculture—W. L. Henning, Secretary

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Department of Agriculture

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COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
HARRISBURG

THE SECRETARY

September 1, 1959

The Honorable David L. Lawrence
Governor of Pennsylvania
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania

Dear Governor Lawrence:

Farmers in Pennsylvania during 1958 experienced one of their greatest crop years. Almost every standing record of yield or production for most crops was nearly equaled or broken. The annual report of activities of the Department of Agriculture reflects this and many of the advancements of our dynamic Pennsylvania agricultural industry.

Notable is the achievement of eliminating the gypsy moth in Pennsylvania. This destructive insect is non-existent according to results of a large-scale survey of northeastern Pennsylvania made during the summer of 1958. This culminates eradication work started in 1932. We continue to work on farm marketing problems. The Pennsylvania Certified Egg program has shown great acceptance by the trade and the consumer. Nearly 2 million dozen eggs are marketed each month as "Pennsylvania Certified."

Through recruitment of top-caliber professional people, we have been able to increase our laboratory services in both regulatory and diagnostic work. It is a credit to all the employees of the Department that services and protection to the agricultural industry and the consumer have been improved and expanded in the last year without any great increase in cost to the taxpayer.

The work of the Department has been greatly enhanced by the guidance, interest and encouragement that has emanated from your office and from the advice and suggestions of farmers and farm organizations throughout the Commonwealth.

Respectfully submitted,

W. L. Henning

W. L. Henning
Secretary of Agriculture

Here's what we did in 1958-59

All-time records were established in the volume inspected for carrots, snap beans and tomatoes.

Assigned a marketing specialist to the new Food Distribution Center in Philadelphia.

Certified 20,887,220 dozen eggs under the new Pennsylvania Certified Egg program.

Re-organized the administration of the Department.

Started a special milk production and marketing survey.

Tested consumer behavior resulting from the Pennsylvania Certified Egg program and found that promotion will increase egg consumption.

Continued oak wilt control and research programs.

Installed a portable basketball floor in the Large Arena of the Farm Show Building.

Presented the 16th National Plowing Contest and Conservation Exposition in August at Hershey in cooperation with Penn State, Hershey Estates, state and federal agencies and private businesses.

Brought the total incidence of brucellosis down to 0.35 per cent.

Certified seed of 11 major crops grown in Pennsylvania.

Adopted a new test report form in the tuberculosis eradication division.

Saw the largest single day's attendance at the 1959 Farm Show—190,000 people.

Vaccinated 15,881 calves against brucellosis.

Started using new modern equipment for food laboratory analyses.

Increased egg inspections by 38.2 per cent.

Paid \$55,250 to 91 county fairs as awards for agricultural achievements.

Made 2,458 dairy farm inspections.

Handled 1,276,096 birds under the National Poultry Improvement Plan.

Saw increasing interest in small watershed flood prevention programs. Twenty-three applications for assistance total more than a million acres.

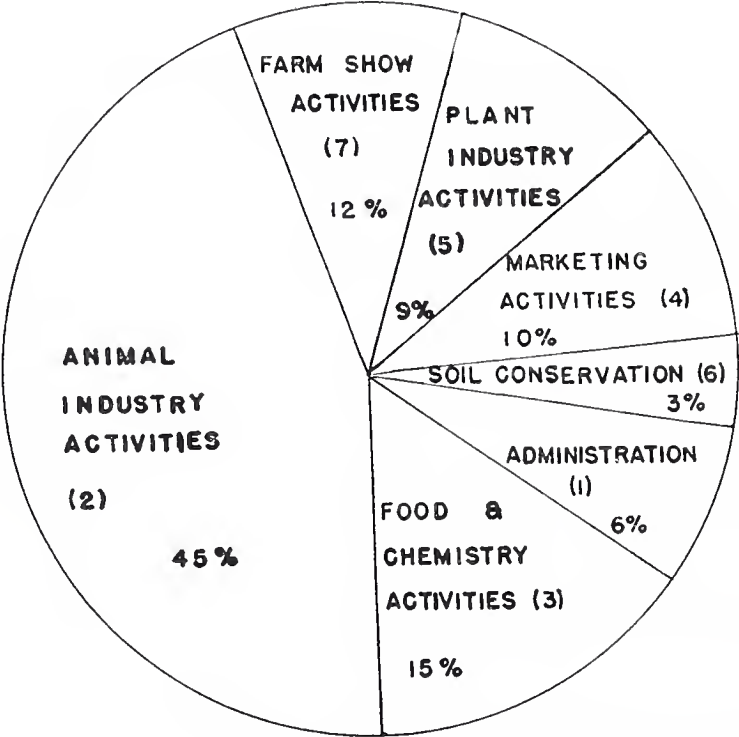
Inspected 33 per cent more vegetables for processing than in the previous year.

Thirty-five events made use of the Farm Show Building—the most ever.

Increased the Soil Conservation District total to 51.

Inspected 40,559 bee colonies, 6,481 apiaries and found 866 cases of American Foul Brood.

HOW THE DEPARTMENT'S EXPENDITURE DOLLAR IS DIVIDED



Figures in parentheses indicate the grouping of accounts into activities

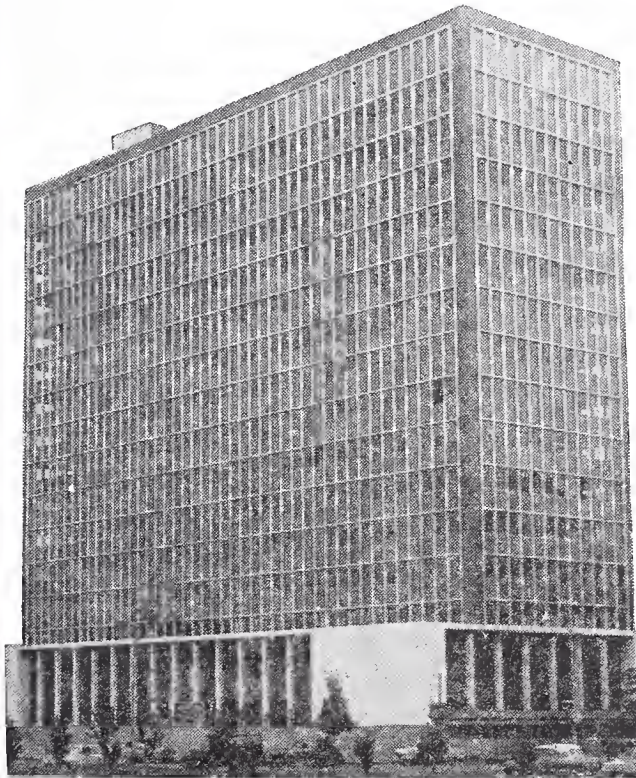
1.	Administration	\$211,364.18	5.	Bureau of Plant Industry	269,360.81
	Emergency Projects ...	None		Oak Wilt Disease Eradication	60,952.83
2.	Bureau of Animal Industry	1,161,295.11		Control of Stem Rust ..	13,163.89
	Animal Indemnities ..	335,059.25	6.	Soil Conservation Commission	35,408.91
	Research in Diseases of Livestock and Poultry	101,519.79		Geological Survey	11,936.77
	Regional Poultry Diagnostic Laboratory ..	26,116.30		Soil Survey	57,745.82
3.	Bureau of Foods & Chemistry	279,862.64	7.	Farm Show Commission	99,372.17
	Division of Milk Sanitation	123,369.89		Livestock Show	50,000.00
	Feed & Fertilizer Fund ..	113,459.67		Junior Dairy Shows ..	15,807.67
4.	Bureau of Markets ...	224,715.24		Farm Products Show Fund	276,743.91
	Encouraging Agricultural Exhibits	55,250.38			
	Egg Inspection and Enforcement	80,296.18			

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

During the period June 1, 1958, to May 31, 1959, administrative services have steadily improved due to centralization and by employing professional methods of administration. In this respect the Department has done its utmost to cooperate with the Governor's Office in carrying out the policies of the Administration.

The Secretary of Agriculture, in an effort to clarify the programs that the Department carries out and to survey the thinking of farmer and consumer groups, has been traveling actively over the State attending conferences and fulfilling speaking engagements. It is hoped that this type of activity will lead to a better understanding of the Department's work and thus result in a closer working relationship with the people we serve. Further, the ideas and suggestions that are gathered are invaluable in improving our services.

Likewise the Deputy Secretary has been making periodic trips to consult with our field personnel. In this way Departmental policies are kept up to date by reports from people in closest contact with citizens of the State.



State Office
Building,
Pittsburgh.

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The district office reorganization plan made progress in the last year. A new office in the southeastern part of the State was organized and opened at Lansdale. This is the third of seven districts that have been organized. The other two are located at Pittsburgh and Tunkhannock.

When the reorganization plan is complete the districts will be directed by a district manager who will have complete control over all activities of the Department in his district and who will report directly to the Secretary and Deputy Secretary. Integration of programs within the three organized districts has been moving forward during the past year.

A new Deputy Secretary has been added to the Department's organization. This position will be responsible for the coordination of programs. The other Deputy Secretary will hold the title of Executive Deputy and will handle administration.

The effects of automation have been felt in the Comptroller's Office. Due to the payroll being put on the central Univac, two jobs have been eliminated, work has been speeded up and a high degree of accuracy has been attained.

The staff of the Public Information Division has been kept busy doing their usual job of keeping the public informed about agriculture in Pennsylvania. Highlights of the Division's work of last year was the coverage of the National Plowing Contest at Hershey, the Pennsylvania Livestock Exposition, Junior Dairy Show, and the annual Pennsylvania Farm Show. Equally important has been the staff's work in answering requests for information and improving and making more attractive the publication list of the Department.

An increasingly important staff function in the Department is the use of high speed business and data processing machines for record keeping. A great deal of information can be punched on cards and processed through the machines in a short time.

During the last year, a master list for oleomargine and other licenses was prepared and milk ring test results and herd owner lists were coded and indexed.

PENNSYLVANIA CROP REPORTING SERVICE

During the fiscal year, the Pennsylvania Crop Reporting Service developed 600 statistical reports from survey data collected from farmers, businessmen, auction markets, mills and elevators, and processors throughout the Commonwealth. From these statistical reports, 300 separate releases, or results, of the studies were published and issued, involving over 706,000 copies.

Each month the Crop Reporting Service releases Pennsylvania and U. S. data on prospective acreage, yields, and production of the principal crops; dairy reports relating to milk cow numbers and milk production; poultry and eggs; potato production; tobacco production; fruit production; vegetable production for both fresh market and processing; hatchery production and prices received and paid by farmers. Weekly releases are issued in season on crop and weather conditions. Weekly broiler chick and poult releases are also issued.

A mailing list of approximately 25,000 voluntary reporters is maintained from whom basic information is obtained from which the farm facts are developed.

The technical staff traveled 28,000 miles during the year interviewing respondents and obtaining check data on crop and livestock production, prices, disposition and utilization.

In addition to the regular established function of collecting statistical data and preparation of State and county estimates of crops and livestock production, two special research projects were undertaken recently.

One study comprised a survey of the Christmas tree industry in 1957, at which time an inventory of tree numbers by ages and varieties was taken. A special bulletin was published on the findings. This project was financed as an A.M.A. project whereby the Department made available funds for matching purposes with Federal funds. Approximately \$10,000 per year has been allocated for this project.

Since February 1958 a special milk production and marketing survey has been underway in Pennsylvania counties. Funds for financing of this project were also made available by the Department under the matching funds program of the U. S. Department of Agriculture. The Bureau of Markets furnished part-time technical assistance.

Approximately \$10,000 in matching funds were available for 1958; \$14,000 in fiscal 1959; and \$17,000 for fiscal 1960.



Above: Mrs. Marian McCarthy and Miss Martinette Lukens work in the Lansdale District Office.



Right: The Tunkhannock District Office. Also at Tunkhannock is one of our poultry diagnostic laboratories.

ANIMAL INDUSTRY

Two changes of importance have been made in the Bovine Tuberculosis control and eradication program in the Commonwealth. A new improved test report form has been adopted and a chapter of regulations dealing solely with tuberculosis has been written and will be put into use shortly. The new regulations will help eliminate a few of the loopholes by which infection is disseminated.

Including the Individual Accredited Herd Plan retests, a total of 23,723 herds, consisting of 489,843 cattle, were tested during this period. Fifteen counties were reaccredited as Modified Tuberculosis-Free Areas. Testing disclosed a total of 773 reactor animals. This is 0.16 per cent of the total number of cattle tested.

From 1918 to May 31, 1959, a total of 331,068 reactor animals have been disclosed as a result of tuberculin testing.

The State-wide percentage of infection as of May 31, 1959, is 0.12 per cent. This is well under the requirement to retain the status of a Modified Accredited Area.

Abattoirs operating under State and Federal meat inspection submitted a total of 42 post-mortem reports indicating straight slaughter cattle revealed lesions of tuberculosis. Thirty-six of these cases were traced to the herds of origin. Of these 36, two were traced to other states and three were traced to herds already under quarantine for tuberculosis.

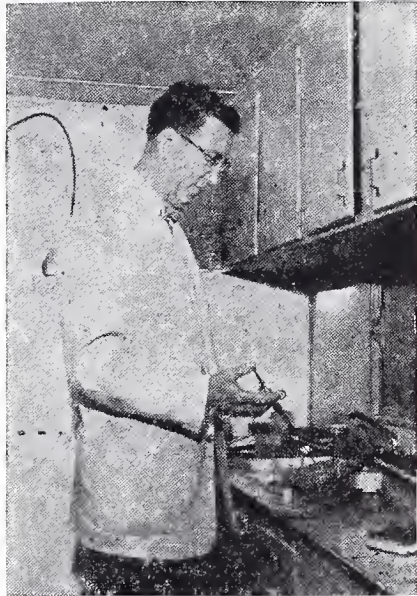
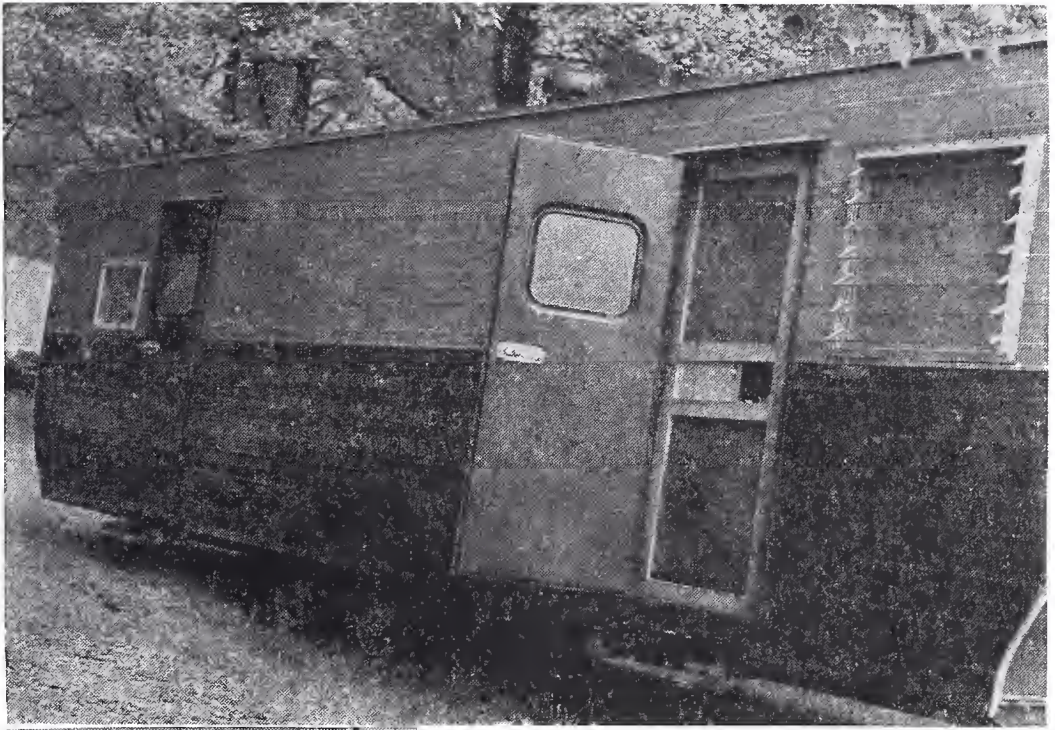
Of the 31 remaining cases, seven of the herds were operating under the Individual Accredited Herd Plan and 24 were operating under the Area Plan. The 32 herds involved were placed under quarantine and tuberculin tests were applied by Pennsylvania and Federal Bureau of Animal Industry veterinarians under a cooperative plan.

BRUCELLOSIS

One important adjunct to the Brucellosis Eradication program is calf-hood vaccination. Last year showed an increase of 15,881 in the number of calves vaccinated over the previous year. To date 1,486,404 calves have been vaccinated in the Commonwealth.

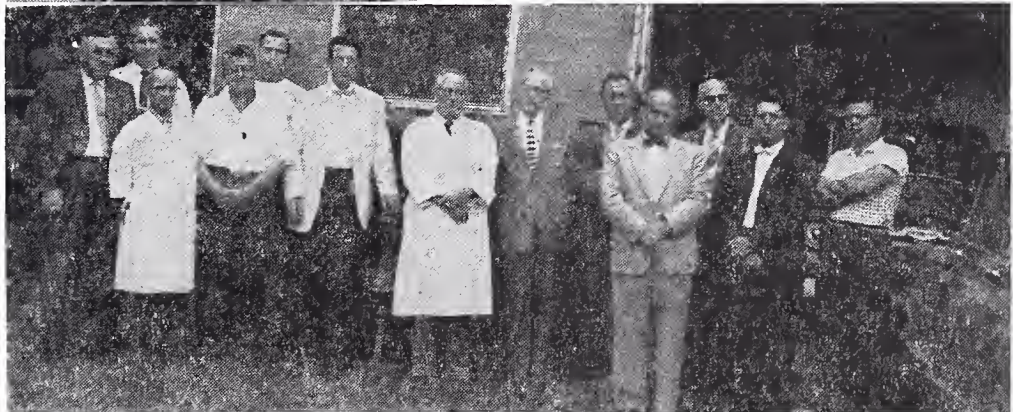
Another important project in the Brucellosis program is the Milk Ring Test. At the present time four mobile ring test units are in operation in Pennsylvania. Since last year samples have been taken from the cream cup at the receiving station and collections from the farm have been eliminated. Of the number of herds included in the milk ring test only 1.7 per cent gave a suspicious reaction. Of the total number of cattle blood tested in milk ring suspect herds, 2.6 per cent gave a positive reaction, while 25.7 per cent of the suspect herds revealed reactors when blood tested.

A total of 34,674 herds, comprising 591,574 cattle were tested in the Brucellosis program. This includes herds tested initially under the Individual and Area plans, in addition to retests conducted on both plans. Of this number, 1,703 non-vaccinated animals reacted to the test, while 424



Above: This trailer is a mobile laboratory used by the Brucellosis Division. **Left:** Wilbur Brubaker performs a milk ring test.

Below: Technicians and supervisors meet frequently for review and instruction.



vaccinated over 30 months of age gave a positive reaction. These reactors were disclosed on 1,330 farms.

The incidence of Bovine Brucellosis on the total number of cattle tested during this fiscal year was 0.35 per cent and the percentage of infected herds was 3.8 per cent. This represents a substantial decrease in both the percentage of infection in cattle and the percentage of infected herds from the previous year.

MISCELLANEOUS DISEASES

Starting in January 1958, veterinarians were requested to report on their use of rabies vaccine. A return-reply card was provided for their convenience in making this monthly report. This program was set up in an effort to obtain a partial answer, at least, to the question of how extensively Pennsylvania livestock and pets were being protected against rabies infection.

From initial response of 39.2 per cent during the month of January, the number of practitioners making a report gradually increased to 47.5 per cent. The species reported was predominately canine with a surprisingly low figure for cattle receiving anti-rabies protection.

MEAT HYGIENE

From June 1, 1958 to December 31, 1958 there were 10 poultry slaughtering plants operating under State inspection. To comply with Federal laws and regulations, which became effective January 1, 1959, they all changed to Federal inspection. These plants are producing an average of approximately 19,500,000 pounds of poultry per month.

There were 54 licensed livestock community sales operating in Pennsylvania during the fiscal year. Each community sale employs a veterinarian who is under the supervision of the Meat Hygiene Division. The importance of close inspection of all livestock submitted for sale in the licensed community livestock sales is great.

This is emphasized by the fact that 370 animals were quarantined. Of this number 81 were condemned on post-mortem examination and 122 died on the premises. These were removed to rendering plants.

LABORATORY DIVISION

The poultry division of the Summerdale Laboratory propagated and distributed sufficient infectious bronchitis virus to immunize at least 1,169,000 chickens in Pennsylvania flocks. Poultry examinations represent 85 per cent of the post-mortem examinations performed at the laboratory, two per cent were livestock and 13 per cent were miscellaneous animal species.

In order to establish a service in the diagnosis of diseases of large animals at the Poultry Regional Diagnostic Laboratories located at Butler and Tunkhannock, one full time pathologist was added to the professional staff operating the Butler laboratory and one pathologist was hired on a part-time basis at the Tunkhannock Laboratory.

The large animal diagnostic activities at both Butler and Tunkhannock laboratories are necessarily limited to examination of tissues removed from the animal elsewhere and brought to the laboratory or else to very small animals. This limitation on the size of the specimen is due to the limited area of the laboratories and lack of large capacity incineration facilities.

DOG LAW DIVISION

There were 33,997 stray dogs eliminated by police and dog law enforcement officers in Pennsylvania during the past fiscal year.

Both individual license sales and kennel license sales were up with 830,648 individual pets being licensed. Prosecutions, damage claims and the amounts of claims declined. Claims amounting to \$41,932.66 were paid, \$3,932.34 by dog owners. There were 882 claims filed.

It is urged that every dog owner in the Commonwealth comply with the Provisions of the Pennsylvania Dog Law and consult with their veterinarian about the administration of anti-rabies vaccine. This will result in keeping the incidence of rabies in dogs at a low level. The licensing and proper restraint of dogs is also instrumental in reducing the number of sheep and other livestock killed or injured by stray dogs.

FOODS & CHEMISTRY

The work of the Bureau of Foods and Chemistry is a continuing activity. A field staff of thirty-two men make inspections to see that various laws relating to foods are enforced. Each agent is responsible for an area containing approximately 400,000 people. Certain agents are responsible solely for the enforcement of laws relating to animal feed, fertilizer and liming materials.

During fiscal year 1958-59, bacteriological standards for frozen dairy products were prepared. Effective July 2, 1959, each producer of ice cream, ice milk, custard and other frozen dairy desserts must have on file a report indicating that their products comply with the Commonwealth's bacteriological standards. The new requirement will materially increase the quality and safety of the products made in roadside type operations.

Regulations were also promulgated governing the preparation and labeling of soft drinks under the authority contained in the new Non-Alcoholic Drinks Law. The use of overprinted wrappers on meat products was also regulated by requiring that at least 20% of the area of the main display panel be transparent so that the purchaser can determine the true nature of the product.

Much time was devoted to the preparation of a complete revision of the basic Food Law. Favorable consideration of this proposed legislation will give Pennsylvania a modern flexible means of coping with the great advance in food technology which has taken place in the past decade.

New equipment has been obtained for use in the food laboratory. A new apparatus will now permit the testing of many samples at the same time. Also, two new semi-automatic balances are now being used for the accurate weighing of samples.

The laboratory is also using a new method involving the use of sodium tetraphenylboron to make a rapid preliminary check on fertilizer samples to determine whether or not potash content complies with the guarantee.

Violations involving adulteration are relatively few. The vast majority of the corrective actions involve cases of economic cheating where the consumer's pocketbook rather than his stomach is affected.

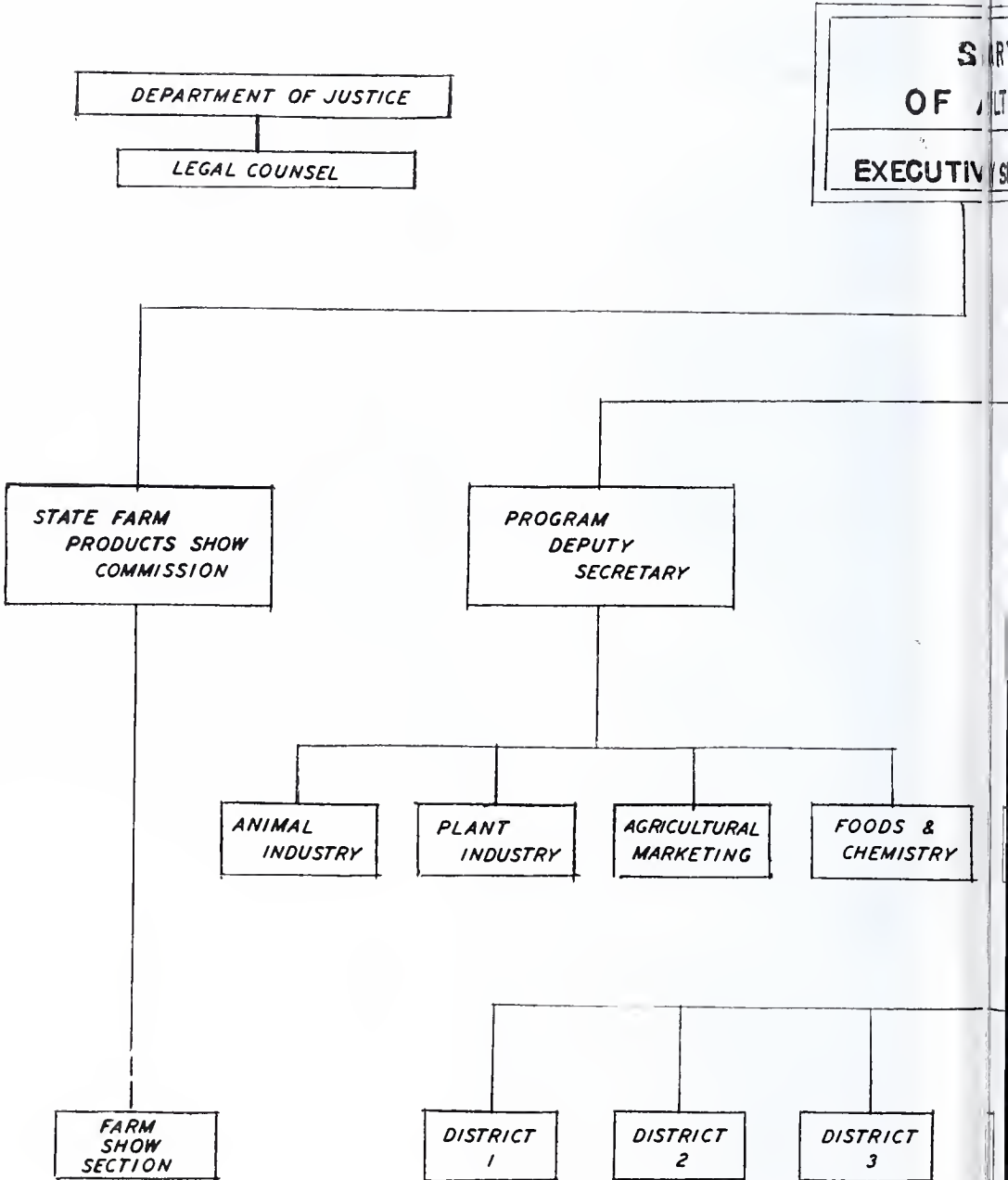
Some measure of the Bureau's activity can be obtained from the following table:

<i>Fiscal Period Ending</i>	<i>Inspect. Made</i>	<i>Food Samples Analyzed</i>	<i>Feed & Fertilizer Analyzed</i>	<i>Food Violations</i>	<i>Feed & Fertilizer Violations</i>
1958	22,900	6,300	4,400	458	41
1959	25,800	5,800	4,000	546	31



New Kjeldahl equipment for nitrogen and protein determination is operated by Willis Kendig in the bureau's Harrisburg laboratory.

DEPARTMENT A



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OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATION

COMPTROLLER

STATE
SOIL CONSERVATION
COMMISSION

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INFORMATION**

REPORTS & STATISTICS

BUDGET & METHODS

**ADMINISTRATIVE
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**SOIL
CONSERVATION
SECTION**

DIVISION OF MILK SANITATION

During the past fiscal year, the Division of Milk Sanitation made 1,800 inspections of milk and milk products plants to determine whether they met the regulations for the sale of their products in Pennsylvania. As a result 2,656 different permits were issued. In addition, 243 inspections were made of milk plants in other States.

Besides plant inspection the Division regularly inspects farms producing milk and handles miscellaneous calls when there are specific problems. During the past year the Division's sanitarians made 2,458 farm inspections and 1,597 miscellaneous calls.

The Division conducted 33 surveys throughout the State in order that Pennsylvania milk might be shipped into other states. The results of these surveys were certified to the United States Public Health Service and published in the Interstate Milk Shippers Report.

In the course of the year 29 official hearings were conducted and due to the evidence that was presented, it was necessary to cancel or revoke 12 applications or permits. Each of the other 17 permit holders who were called for a hearing corrected the unsatisfactory conditions so that their permits could continue in force.

Examinations were given for an approved inspector's certificate. Ninety-six passed the examinations and 816 renewal certificates were issued.

The departmental bacteriological laboratory which was equipped and organized last year is now being utilized full time. This laboratory conducts bacteriological and chemical tests of milk and milk products. Each week, one of 13 district representatives secures samples from dairies in his area and submits them to the laboratory where they are examined for standard plate count, coliform content, and phosphatase activity. Some instances have shown careless handling on the part of the plant operators. Such results are investigated promptly by the field man who submitted the samples, so that corrective measures may be instituted by the dairies. This procedure will have a definite beneficial effect on the milk supply in the Commonwealth.

In 1957, preliminary steps were taken to formulate bacterial standards for milk and milk products by soliciting suggestions from both commercial and company laboratory control officials. Following receipt of suggested standards, a preliminary regulation was written. Meetings were arranged with the various groups of the dairy industry at which time modifications were suggested and included. After numerous changes, a formal hearing was held in December, 1958, as required by our Milk Sanitation Law, at which time additional recommendations were made for amending the proposed regulation.

After studying the recommendations, some changes were made.

Following this the regulations were formally approved by the Attorney General's office on March 16, 1959, and signed by the Secretary of Agriculture. These regulations establish maximum limits for standard plate count and coliform content for all milk and milk products, from production to consumption. These standards are reasonable and conformity with them will do two things: the first being assurance that sanitary procedures are being followed, and the second, assurance that consumers are getting a safe product.



Philadelphia's new Food Center on dedication Day.

Bureau of

MARKETS

The fiscal year of 1958-59 marks the first full year of operation of the Pennsylvania Certified Egg Program. This program which started in April 1958, is voluntary and applies only to those persons or organizations which wish both to classify eggs according to the official Pennsylvania egg standards and to identify them as having been certified. This program is a supplement to the continuing Federal-State egg grading plan and was begun primarily at the request of major handlers in the industry who wished to reduce costs and to identify their eggs officially with the Commonwealth for promotional values. As of May 31, 1959 there were 20 plants participating in the certified program. During the fiscal year 1958-59 a total of 696,274 30-dozen cases were certified.

As a corollary to the Pennsylvania Egg Certification program, the Agricultural Experiment Station of the Pennsylvania State University and the Bureau of Markets, on a joint basis, conducted a test survey to determine the effectiveness and appeal of such a program. Specifically, this test survey was designed to measure the influence on consumer behavior of the Pennsylvania Egg Certification Program.

Two Pennsylvania cities were used in the test. Certified eggs were introduced into the city of York. To provide the necessary experimental conditions, certain control measurements were also obtained from Lancaster.

The overall design for this test marketing work included three four-week periods, beginning June 16 and ending September 6, 1958. During the first four-week control period, certified eggs were not available in either market (except for two stores in York). During the second four-week period, certified eggs were introduced into 22 additional stores in York.

At the beginning of the third four-week period, an intensive promotional program was carried out in York. This program used a mobile trailer in the city square providing information on egg quality, numerous newspaper articles, radio and television spots and interviews, point of sale information, talks to service clubs, and a direct mailing of an information pamphlet on egg quality to all households in York.

In addition to sales data obtained from store records, information was obtained by telephone interviews of housewives on egg purchases, attitudes, and knowledge about egg quality and the certified egg program. These interviews were repeated during each four-week period. In Lancaster, interviews of housewives were conducted during the first and third four-week period.

In evaluating the test marketing program the conclusion seems to be that the mere introduction of egg certification had very little impact on consumer behavior or knowledge during the relatively short period involved. The promotion program was designed to provide information regarding the Pennsylvania Egg Certification Program. While it was not too successful in accomplishing this specific objective, the promotion program did appear to increase egg consumption.

EGG INSPECTIONS

An average of 8 inspectors were used in enforcing the Pennsylvania Fresh Eggs Law and the Pennsylvania Egg Standards, compared to an average of 6 men during the previous fiscal year. A total of 19,190 inspections were made during the 1958-59 fiscal year, compared to 13,886 inspections during the previous fiscal year.

POULTRY TESTS

A total of 1,276,096 birds from 1,016 flocks were directly handled and/or supervised under the National Poultry Improvement Plan in Pennsylvania



Robert Kohler, store manager, and Robert Lenker, district superintendent of Weis Markets, discuss the Pennsylvania egg certification label with E. J. Lawless, Jr., (center) of the Pennsylvania Bureau of Markets' mobile display at the introductory program in York, Pa.



Former Pennsylvania Poultry Queen, Margaret McPherson and Donna Warfield, York County Poultry Queen, assist Alvin N. Saylor in explaining the use of the egg certification label in the Pennsylvania Bureau of Markets' display during the introductory program in York, Pa.

during the fiscal year 1958-59. The number of birds handled under this plan during the past fiscal year was about 3 per cent above the 1,237,988 birds handled during the 1957-58 fiscal year. This plan, which is a cooperative effort between the Department and the U. S. Department of Agriculture has as its objectives improving the breeding and production qualities of poultry and to reduce losses from poultry diseases.

In the Pennsylvania Official Egg Laying Test Program there were 48 entries totalling 2,400 birds entered during the past fiscal year. This is the same number of entries as in fiscal year 1957-1958. Hence, the Egg Laying Test Program has operated at maximum capacity during the past two fiscal years.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLE INSPECTIONS

Due to the very favorable crop growing season during the past fiscal year, the volume of raw products for processing inspected by the Federal-State Inspection Service was the highest on record. In fiscal 1958-59, 301,928 tons of fruits and vegetables were inspected for processing compared with 225,324 tons the previous year. This represents a 33 per cent increase over the volume inspected for processing in 1957. By commodities, all-time records were established during 1958 in the volume inspected for carrots, snap beans and tomatoes.

During the past fiscal year there was a further decline in the number of carlots of fresh perishables for market which were certified for quality by inspectors of the fruit and vegetable division.

In 1958-59, 1,830 carlots were certified compared with 1,893 carlots in

1957-58, a decrease of 3 per cent. Again, peaches and potatoes accounted for most of the volume inspected and certified for fresh market. This type of inspection, which is largely a Federal-State function, involves fresh produce which is destined for state and federal institutions, export trade, or any other shipment for which a federal certificate of quality is desired by either the grower or the recipient.

PROMOTIONAL ACTIVITIES

At the third annual meeting of the Food Marketing Advisory Council it was voted to change its organizational structure so that it would be composed of a designated representative from each organization embracing any or all of the following fields: Production, processing, distribution and/or marketing of agricultural products. Previously the council consisted of volunteer representatives from all recognized associations and groups whose interests include orderly and efficient marketing of Pennsylvania food products.

This change in the organizational structure of FMAC, which provides each agricultural organization with better representation, will serve all facets of the agriculture and allied industries in Pennsylvania in a more effective manner. Specifically, each organization's representative will be provided with all pertinent information that may be needed before an organization's position is expressed. Moreover, on many other matters, the representatives' advice and counsel may be beneficial.

The monthly FMAC Promotional Bulletin is sent to about 5,000 individuals engaged in farming and allied marketing industries primarily within the state. This bulletin serves as a medium for planning and recording promotional activities, scheduling meetings and keeping the food industry alerted to pertinent marketing news.

NEW MARKET OPENING

Assistance to Philadelphia's wholesale food dealers installing food handling systems in the new Food Distribution Center in South Philadelphia was provided by the Bureau of Markets during the current fiscal year. This additional service of the Bureau included the assignment of a marketing specialist who is located in the new wholesale produce center.

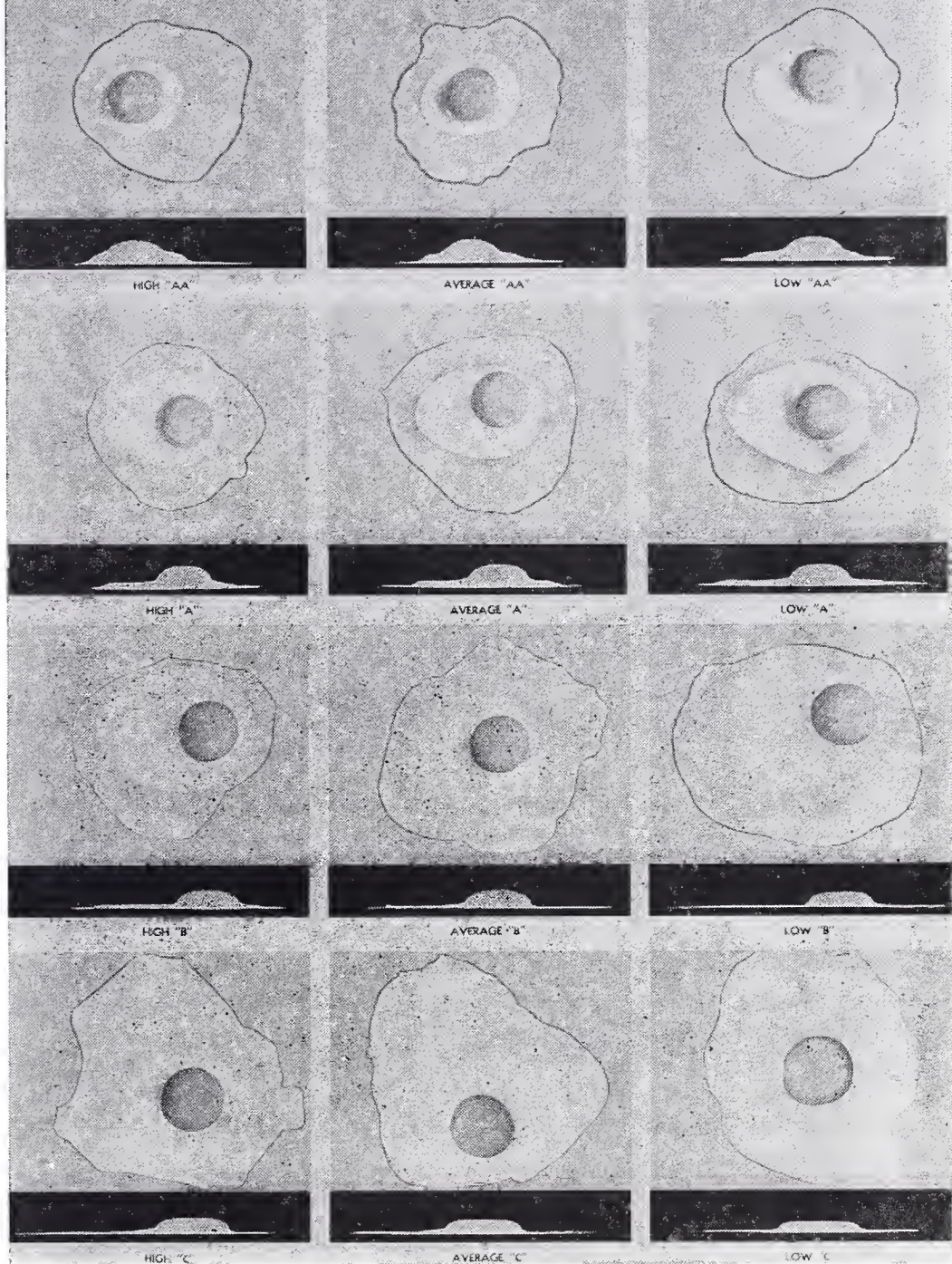
Specifically, this service includes assisting individual wholesalers on specifications and costs for refrigeration; evaluating present food handling costs and to make recommendations on the use of more efficient handling methods and other related activities. The Bureau was responsible in obtaining a demonstration of materials handling equipment at the center, which was held on May 26, 1959. In this connection, many of the leading handling equipment suppliers in the Philadelphia area displayed and demonstrated the latest types of sea food and produce handling equipment. This provided an excellent opportunity for individual wholesalers to see the types of equipment that would lower their handling costs and best fit an individual's requirements. This activity is carried on under a Federal-State matched funds project in cooperation with the Agricultural Marketing Service, U. S. Department of Agriculture.

COUNTY FAIRS

The responsibility of administering the law related to the encouragement of agricultural exhibits was transferred to the Bureau of Markets. This

INTERIOR QUALITY OF EGGS

(Recommended standards for scoring the quality of broken-out eggs)



law provides for a grant-in-aid program under which sums are given to county fair associations holding agricultural exhibitions.

The extent of the program is governed by the amount of money appropriated and by the scope of the exhibitions in the State. Accordingly, during the fiscal year ending May 31, 1959, a total of \$55,250 was allocated to 91 county fairs for payment of premium awards for agricultural achievements.

PLANT INDUSTRY

Unfavorable weather made 1958 a bad season for apiary inspection. Rainy and cold weather made handling bees very difficult. For this reason the number of colonies inspected was fewer than in 1957.

Bee Inspections			
	<i>Bee Colonies Inspected</i>	<i>No. of Apiaries</i>	<i>No. of American Foul Brood Cases</i>
1957-58	55,114	7,571	916
1958-59	40,559	6,481	866

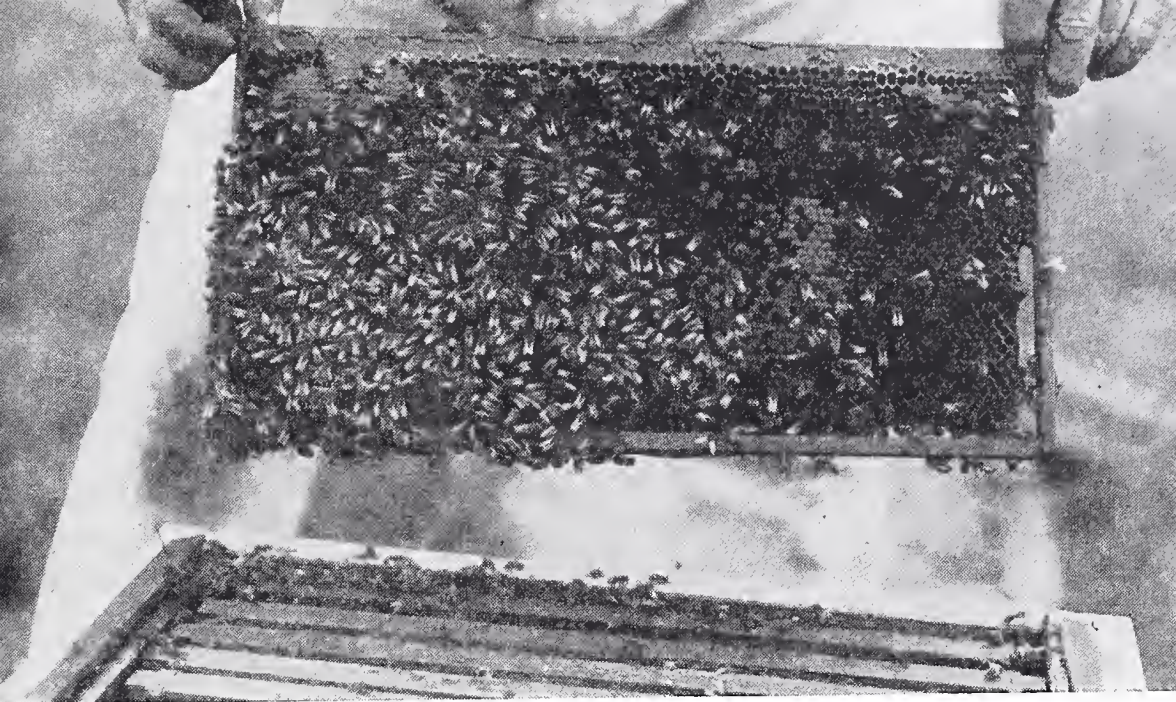
A regulation effective April 1, 1958, governing bees brought into the State by transient beekeepers proved to be desirable. This is a great aid in controlling bee brood disease, an infectious disease of bee colonies, within the State. Four out-of-state lots of bees were found to contain diseased broods and were destroyed at once.

During the year a high percentage of nursery plants were found to be free from serious trouble and certificates were issued to the owners enabling them to make legal sale of such plants. Plants found with insect pests were placed under local quarantine until such time as proper treatment could be rendered.

In addition to the certification of regular nurseries, 134 persons were authorized to collect native plants and bring them to a fixed place for inspection before offering them for sale. A total of 480 out of 556 out-of-state nurserymen who applied were issued certificates enabling them to sell plants in the State. Also, a total of 56 acres of Bramble and Strawberry plants were inspected and certified during 1958-59.

Nursery Inspection		
	<i>Certified Nurseries</i>	<i>Nursery Acreage</i>
1957-58	2,078	14,377
1958-59	2,090	14,843

Vegetable plants shipped into the State were brought under the provisions of a quarantine effective April 1, 1959. This enactment is designed to protect the vegetable industry from the entrance of plant pests such as leaf spots, blights, viruses, nematodes, mites and insects. One truckload and several lots of tomato plants from southern states were rejected because of the presence of insect pests.



Bee hives are inspected to aid in control of infectious bee diseases.

ERADICATION PROGRAMS

The Bureau cooperates with the Federal government in the control of Gypsy Moth. In the Spring of 1958 spraying was undertaken over a 500,000 acre area in the northeastern part of the State. Later intensive surveys of this and other areas of the State failed to find a single living Gypsy Moth.

There was no need for spraying in the Spring of 1958. An additional survey was scheduled to begin June 15, 1959.

In the area of Oak Wilt control, the Bureau is doing pioneer work. Reduction in the number of infected trees in the areas of density of infection, Bedford and Huntingdon Counties, was noted in 1958-59.

Oak Wilt is a fungus disease which attacks oak and related trees. In recent conferences on the control of this disease the emphasis was put on research. There is still no definite information regarding the long-range spread and origin of the disease.

In the 1957-59 biennium the General Assembly provided \$26,000 for the control of Grain Stem Rust. This is a three-way cooperative project with County, State and Federal governments participating.

The Stem Rust of small grains is controlled by removal of the European Barberry from grain growing areas. Much progress has been made in this program, however a considerable amount of work remains to be done.

PEST SURVEYS

Sixty-four potato fields, scattered throughout the Commonwealth, were inspected in the early growing season for the presence of seed borne disease. Thirty-six of these fields were planted with Pennsylvania certified seed and 28 with out-of-state certified seed. Seed from both sources were found to be satisfactory.

Several plant pest surveys undertaken by the Bureau disclosed that the Japanese Beetle has decreased in abundance over the State and that European Corn Borer showed an increase in damage to crops over last year.

The reduction of the former was probably due to the distribution of a parasite that feeds on the Japanese Beetle. Damage caused by the European Corn Borer in 1958 was \$1,316,000 in comparison with \$1,096,000 in 1957.

Other surveys for insect pests known to be established in other states were made in Pennsylvania. None of the pests were found in the State. These include witch weed, causing trouble in the Carolinas; alfalfa aphid, slowly spreading east from the Western States; the European Chaffer, Golden Nematode and Fire Ant.

SEED CERTIFICATION AND ENFORCEMENT

Seed certification service is provided to insure a supply of superior Pennsylvania grown seed for the farmers of the Commonwealth.

Acres Approved for Certification by Seed Classes						
Crop	1957-58			1958-59		
	Founda- tion	Regis- tered	Certi- fied	Founda- tion	Regis- tered	Certi- fied
Wheat	30	301	3,543	25	602	3,780
Winter Barley	8	139	1,964	12	145	2,289
Rye		12	61			9
Winter Oats		36	241	8	65	209
Spring Oats	18	137	762	5	171	653
Spring Barley		12	41		8	20
Hybrid Field Corn ..			1,834			1,385
Hybrid Sweet Corn ..			2			1
Tomatoes			1,321			846
Potatoes		543	7		618	39
Tobacco (plants, not acres)			2,760			3,466

Inspectors located in several districts throughout the State inspect agricultural and vegetable seeds offered for sale. Samples of suspect seed lots are tested by laboratory analysis to determine the true worth of the seeds.

Seeds found to be improperly labeled are marked with a "Stop Sale" tag and the dealers are instructed to make the required corrections.

Seed Law Enforcement				
	Regulatory Samples	Service Samples	State Agency Samples	Total Violations
1957-58	1,580	1,117	377	109
1958-59	1,251	993	353	89

FARM SHOW

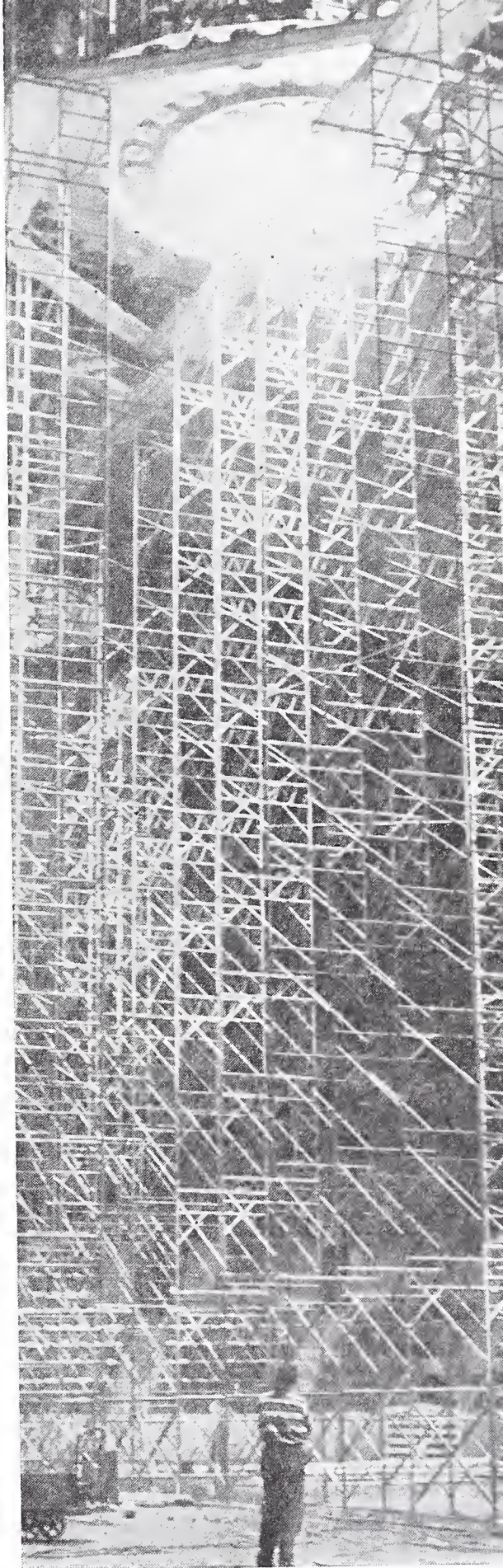
Dedicated to the theme, "Agriculture is Everybody's Business," the 1959 Farm Show was a tribute to the more than one-third of the people of the Commonwealth dependent upon agriculture for all or part of their livelihood, as well as the many industries, large and small, involved in production, processing, transportation, supply and service to the Pennsylvania farmer.

Over 4,000 Pennsylvania rural people, representing 64 counties, made entries in the 27 departments. A total of 10,323 entries competed for the 10,596 placings, for which a record \$64,125.50 in cash premiums was offered. Premiums awarded totaled \$47,436.15, higher than at any previous show.

Attendance during the five days of the show was estimated at 665,000. Monday and Tuesday saw record breaking crowds of 155,000 for each of the first two days and Wednesday's attendance of 190,000 set an all-time record for the day.

A considerable number of entries in the livestock and dairy departments had to be turned away for lack of space. All commercial exhibit space in the main exhibition hall and Large Arena was occupied and many exhibitors could not be accommodated.

Governor George M. Leader formally opened the 1959 Farm Show on Monday evening "Governor's Night," in the Large Arena. This was followed by the



annual Pennsylvania State Police demonstrations. Activities in the large Arena from Monday through Thursday evenings played to more than capacity crowds and many visitors had to be turned away. The second annual Folk Dance Festival and Contest on Tuesday evening was comprised of 60 groups competing for \$750 in prize money. The regular Thursday evening livestock parade was followed by a new feature, 4-H Club Light Horse Demonstrations.

The second annual Pennsylvania National Livestock Exposition, November 10 through 14, set new records in entries and public interest. Nearly 3,000 head of beef cattle, swine and sheep, a total of 396 exhibitors from 22 states and Canada, shared in a record \$80,000 in premiums and prizes. Attracting crowds to the Exposition were the Tommy Steiner World Championship Rodeo with seven performances during the week; an elaborate Armed Forces Show with all branches of the defense units participating; and the first annual Mid-Atlantic Truck Show featuring all types of farm hauling equipment.

In addition to the Farm Show, the buildings were used during the year by 35 organizations for conventions, meetings and expositions. The addition of a portable basketball floor in the Large Arena permitted the use of the Arena for an American Olympic benefit demonstration by the Finnish National Gymnastic Team and four high school basketball district playoffs. More than 30,000 spectators saw the five events.

Improvements to the Farm Show Buildings and grounds, under the General State Authority, included a new roof on the Large Arena; black top on three parking lots; repairs of front walks; new 8" water line; revamping of electrical equipment making service available from two sub-stations; construction of a coal silo and an ash silo; installation of a new boiler; new lighting and sound systems in the Large Arena; two new toilets on the first concourse of the Large Arena; and the new basketball floor, runway and bleachers.

It is estimated that one and a quarter million people attended the Farm Show and the 35 other events scheduled in the Farm Show Buildings during the past year.



SOIL CONSERVATION COMMISSION

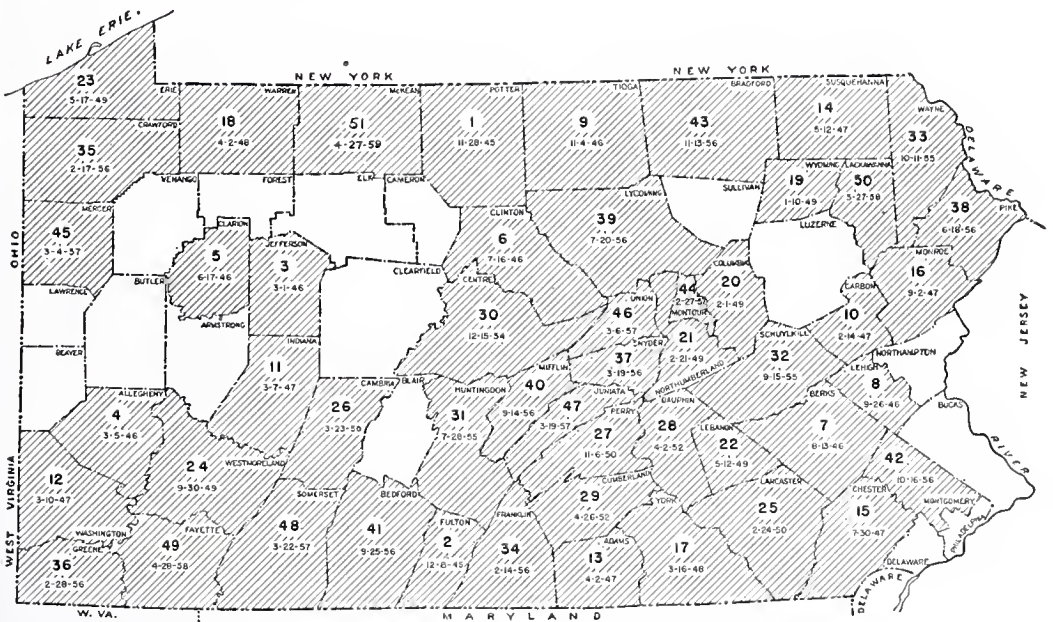
The State Soil Conservation Commission met five times during the past fiscal year to plan and supervise operations of the professional staff of two full time men, a part time consultant and two office personnel. Members of the Commission as well as staff members attended several meetings to discuss interstate problems and held its annual conference at Sunbury in September of 1958. The conference was held in co-operation with the Pennsylvania Association of Soil Conservation District Directors.

McKean County became Pennsylvania's 51st county-wide soil conservation district in the race for complete state coverage. Twenty-one districts have been declared in the last four and one-half years, the fastest growth in the nation.

The Commission aids Soil Conservation Districts by giving them organization, administrative and educational help. Organization of new districts is a continual aim of the Commission. By holding training workshops for directors and giving direction in preparation of annual plans and budget it is hoped that each district will become self operating. The staff continues to provide districts with travel expenses for directors and postage for official use. Clerical aid in preparing forms and duplication of letters and annual reports was also furnished.

The staff members are actively engaged in traveling over the state giving lectures, slide and film talks to service clubs, agricultural organizations and governmental groups to explain the work of the districts.

Over the past year the Commission has co-operated with various other governmental agencies in carrying out programs relative to soil conservation, such as the soil survey of the Commonwealth to make needed characterization tests and hydrologic studies. The purpose of the latter project is to find out how long it takes for erosion control measures to take effect. The Commission and districts throughout the state also were closely associated with the Queen of the Furrow Contest and the 16th National Plowing Contest and Conservation Exposition held in Hershey in August, 1958.



STATUS OF SMALL WATERSHED FLOOD PREVENTION PROJECT APPLICATIONS

PROJECT	COUNTY	ACREAGE
APPROVED AND PRIORITY DESIGNATED:		
Green Dreher	Wayne, Pike, and Monroe	46,220
Saul-Mathay Run	Mercer	3,500
Brodhead Creek	Monroe and Pike	90,432
Mill Creek	Tioga	8,430
Little Shenango River	Mercer and Crawford	60,000
APPROVED:		
Bull Run	Union	5,606
Harmon Creek	Washington; Brooke and Hancock, W. Va.	10,000
Pocono Creek	Monroe	31,000
Sandy Creek	Mercer and Crawford	40,000
Wheeling Creek	Greene and Washington; Ohio and Marshall, W. Va.	190,000
Wissahickon Creek	Montgomery	41,492
Wolf Creek	Mercer and Venango	40,000
DISAPPROVED:		
Aquashicola	Carbon and Monroe	53,000
Celebration Creek	Schuylkill and Carbon	1,500
McMichaels Creek	Monroe	43,000
South Branch, Middle Creek ..	Snyder and Mifflin	2,878
PENDING:		
Brooklyn Creek	Susquehanna	400
Cussewago	Crawford and Erie	69,160
Fishing Creek	Columbia	130,544
Glade Run	Lycoming and Northumberland ..	5,075
Kingsley Creek	Susquehanna	600
Mauch Chunk	Carbon and Schuylkill	5,760
Middle Creek	Snyder, Union and Mifflin	84,200
Mill Run	Crawford	8,430
Neshannock	Mercer	61,760
Tobyhanna Creek	Monroe	53,000



Soil mapping and characterization begin with soil sampling to bedrock. In this picture, Dr. R. P. Matelski of the Pennsylvania Agricultural Experiment Station is shown, lower right, graphically illustrating the characteristics of a soil by means of samples taken with a probe, a soil augur and a shovel. The lesson is augmented by a specially prepared soil profile. Other persons in the picture are members of the soil characterization laboratory staff at University Park. They are, from right to left, Alex Belenski, Carl Engle, William Scoenebeck, Stanley Smith (stooping), David Gull, Charles Greenland, Ben Holmes, R. P. Matelski.

